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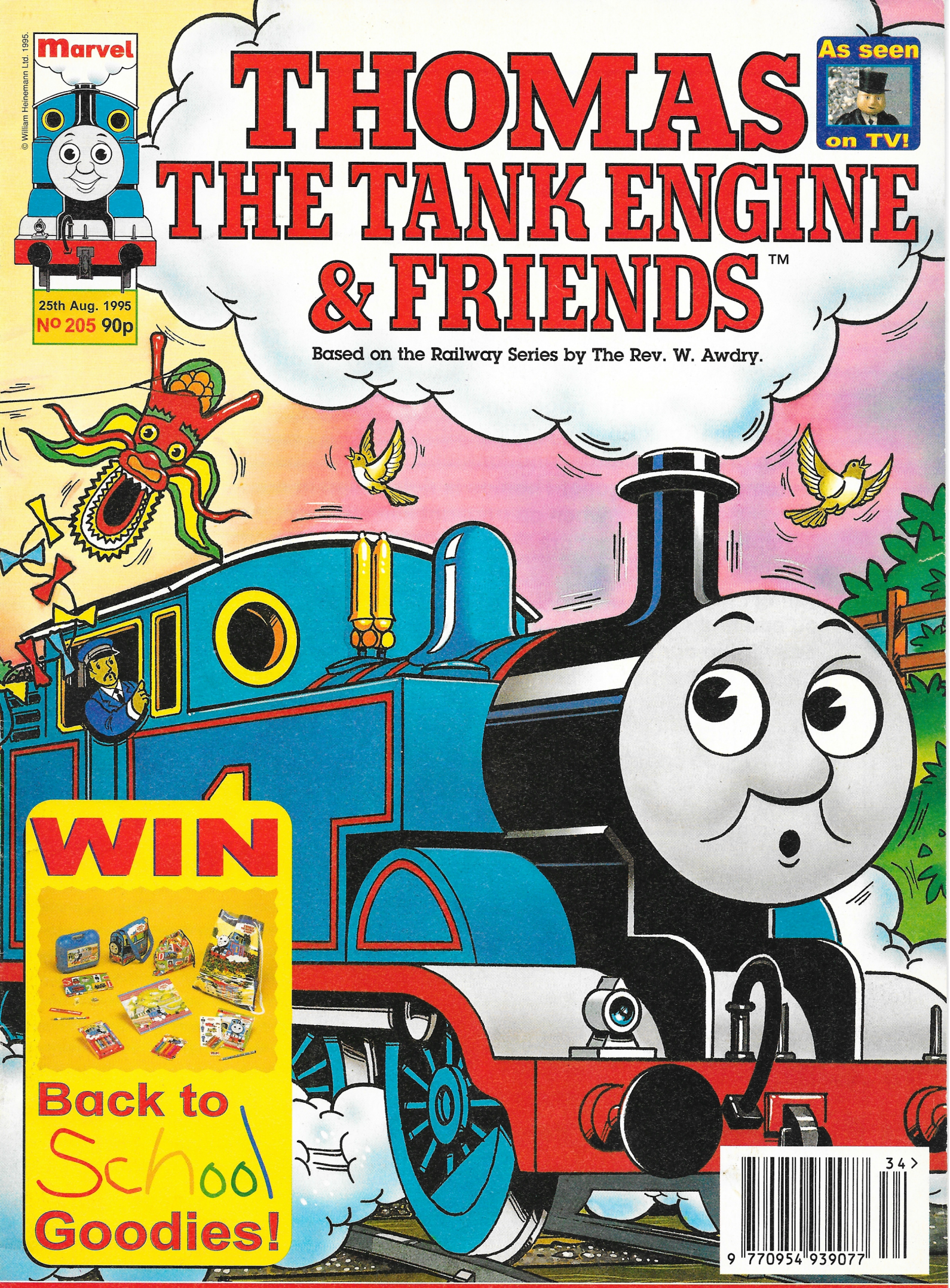
Marvel

25th Aug. 1995
No 205 90p

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS™

As seen on TV!

Based on the Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.



WIN

Back to School Goodies!

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New stories! Make a Wind Chime! Terence facts!

ALL AB

Notice Board!

Peep! Peep! Turn the pages and you will see that this issue of Thomas the Tank Engine is filled with even more fun than usual! With great new stories and fantastic features, there's lots of excitement for everyone! Thomas is flying high in our first story, Thomas takes off, when an unusual kite wins a competition! Stephen and Bridget are flying their kites too! Help them to untangle their strings in Pick a kite! Can Duck really hear wind singing? Find out in our Read & Play story, Music in the air! Then you can make a splendid wind chime in our exciting Read & Play activity! In our final story, Thomas proves once again what an efficient engine he is, when he leads the engines over loose rails in Bouncing about! And don't miss the terrific tales about Terence in our feature, Friends of Thomas! Plus there's a great competition where you could win some 'back to school' goodies! Happy reading! *Peep! Peep!*

Competition fun on page 9!

Make a wind chime on pages 16 & 17!

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS is published fortnightly by **MARVEL COMICS LTD**. Chairman; Jim Galton. Managing Director; Richard Maskell. Managing Editor; Alan O'Keefe. Editorial Team; Jenny Wackett, Jason Quinn. Art Director; Helen Nally. Design; Liz Stott. Production Control; Julie Pickering, Mark Irvine, Andy Parslow. Office of Publication: 13-15 Arundel St, London WC2R 3DX. All 'THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS material copyright © William Heinemann Limited. All television and merchandising rights licensed by William Heinemann Limited to Britt Allcroft (THOMAS) Ltd., exclusively worldwide. **'THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS'** is a trademark of Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Limited. All rights reserved. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons and/or institutions in this publication with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Printed in the UK. Distributed by Marketforce (UK) Ltd., 247 Tottenham Court Road, LONDON W1P OAU. Tel. 071 261 5555. ISSN 0954-9390.

ABC AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS CONSUMER PRESS

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Pinball Competition TOKEN 1

OARD!

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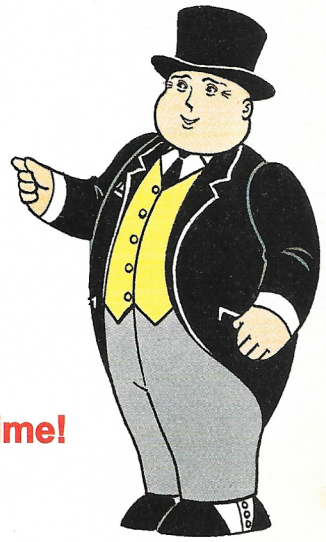
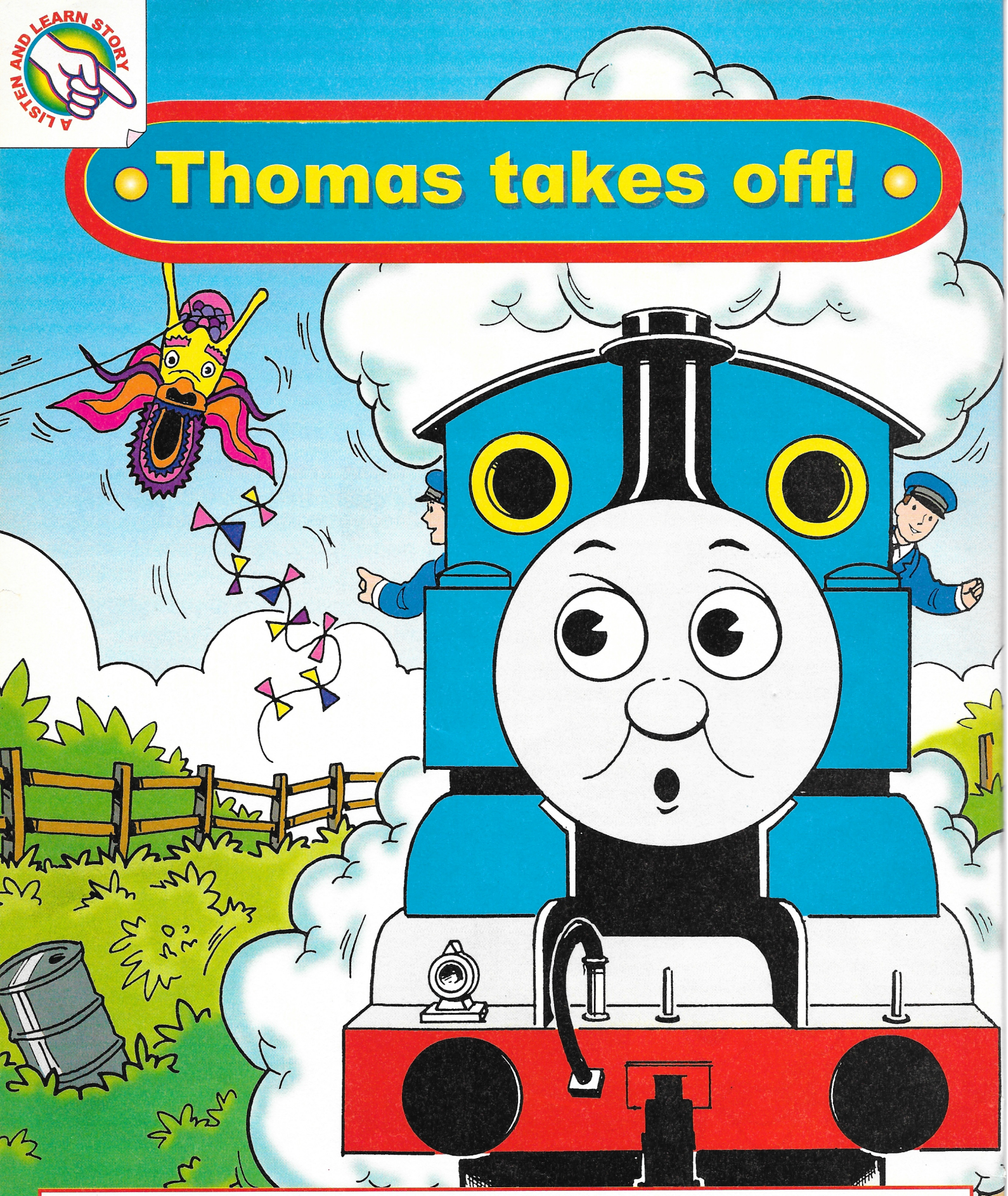


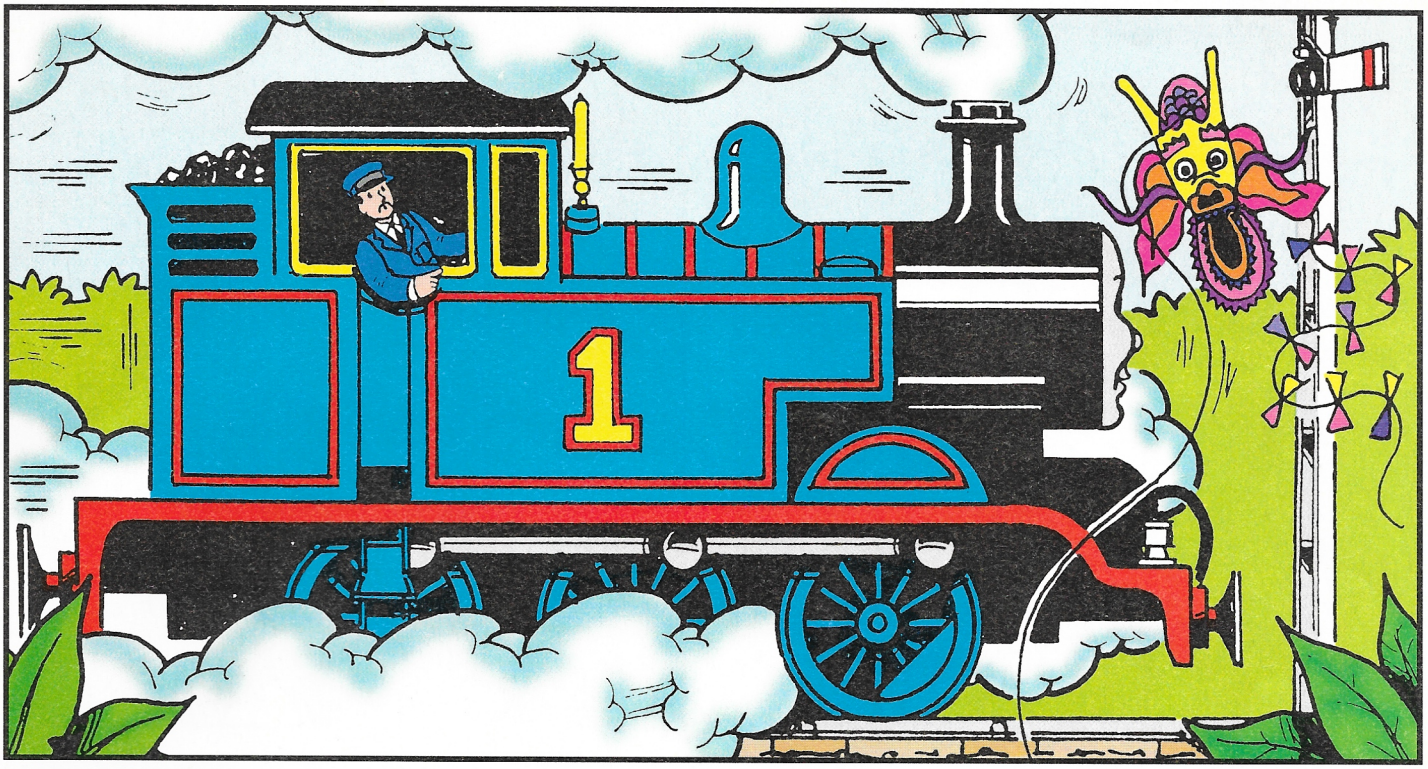
A LISTEN AND LEARN STORY

Thomas takes off!



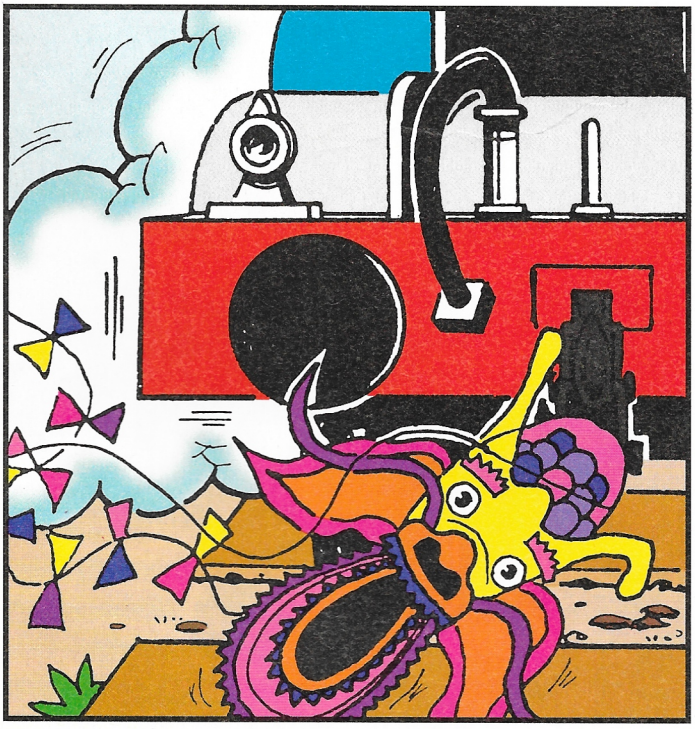
1. Thomas always enjoyed steaming though the countryside on his branch line. There was so much to see. One windy day, he spotted something very strange in the sky.

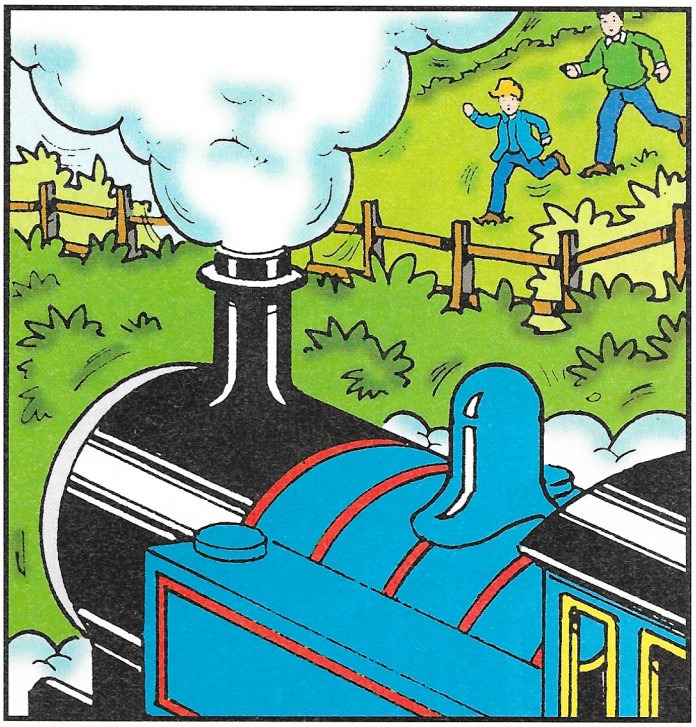
2. As it flew closer, Thomas had a shock. "Smoke and fire!" he gasped. "I've never seen a bird like that before!" It was brightly coloured, with a long tail and no feathers.



3. "That's a dragon!" cried his driver. "They breathe smoke and fire, just like engines!" "But engines can't fly!" said Thomas. Suddenly, the dragon dived towards him.

4. "Don't worry," said Thomas's driver. "It's only a kite. The wind must have dropped." Down and down came the dragon kite as Thomas approached a signal.



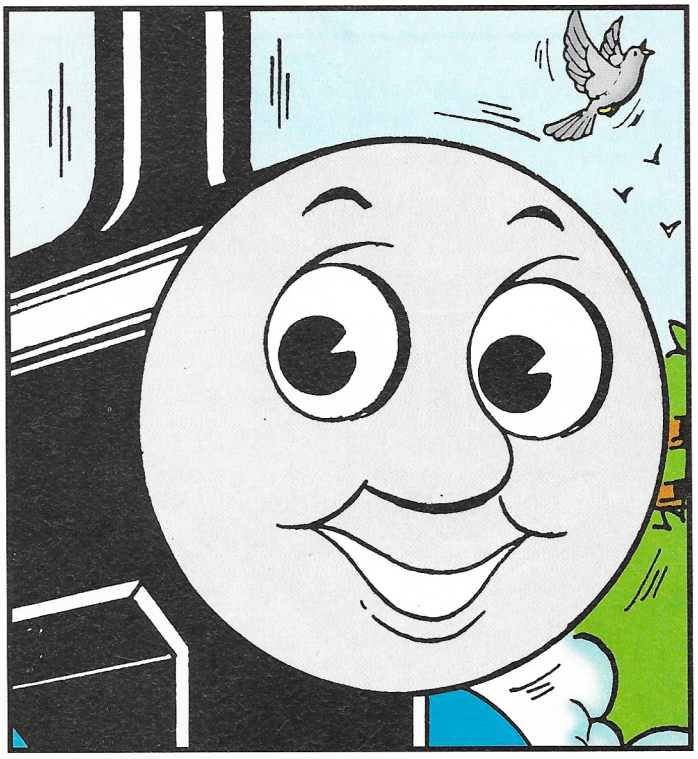


5. The kite landed on the track by the signal, which was at stop. Thomas pulled up sharply. But he could not brake in time to miss the kite. His wheels ran right over it.

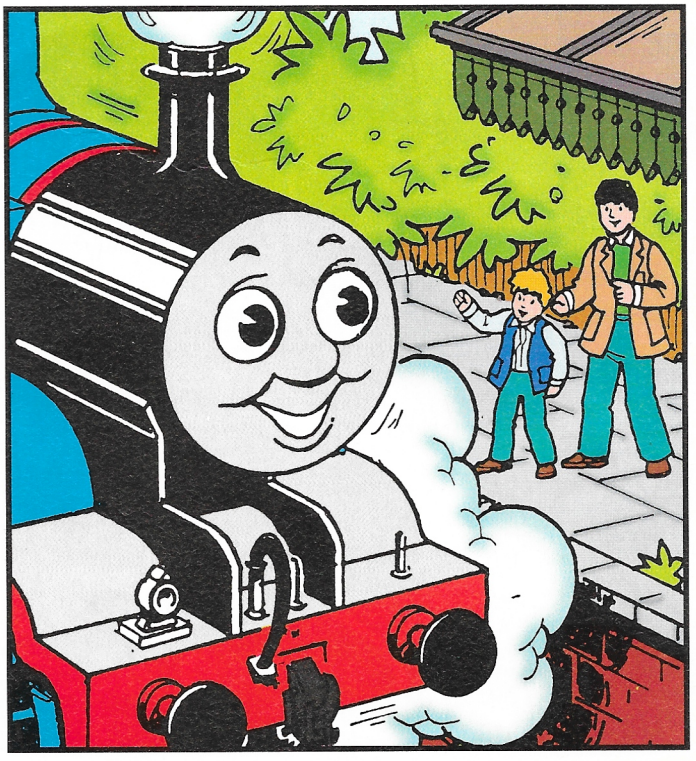
6. Then a little boy and a man came running across a field. "The string snapped on our kite!" the boy said, sadly. "Daddy made it for me to enter a competition."

7. Thomas was very sorry. His driver climbed out of his cab and handed back the broken kite. "I'll never build another in time for the competition," said the man.

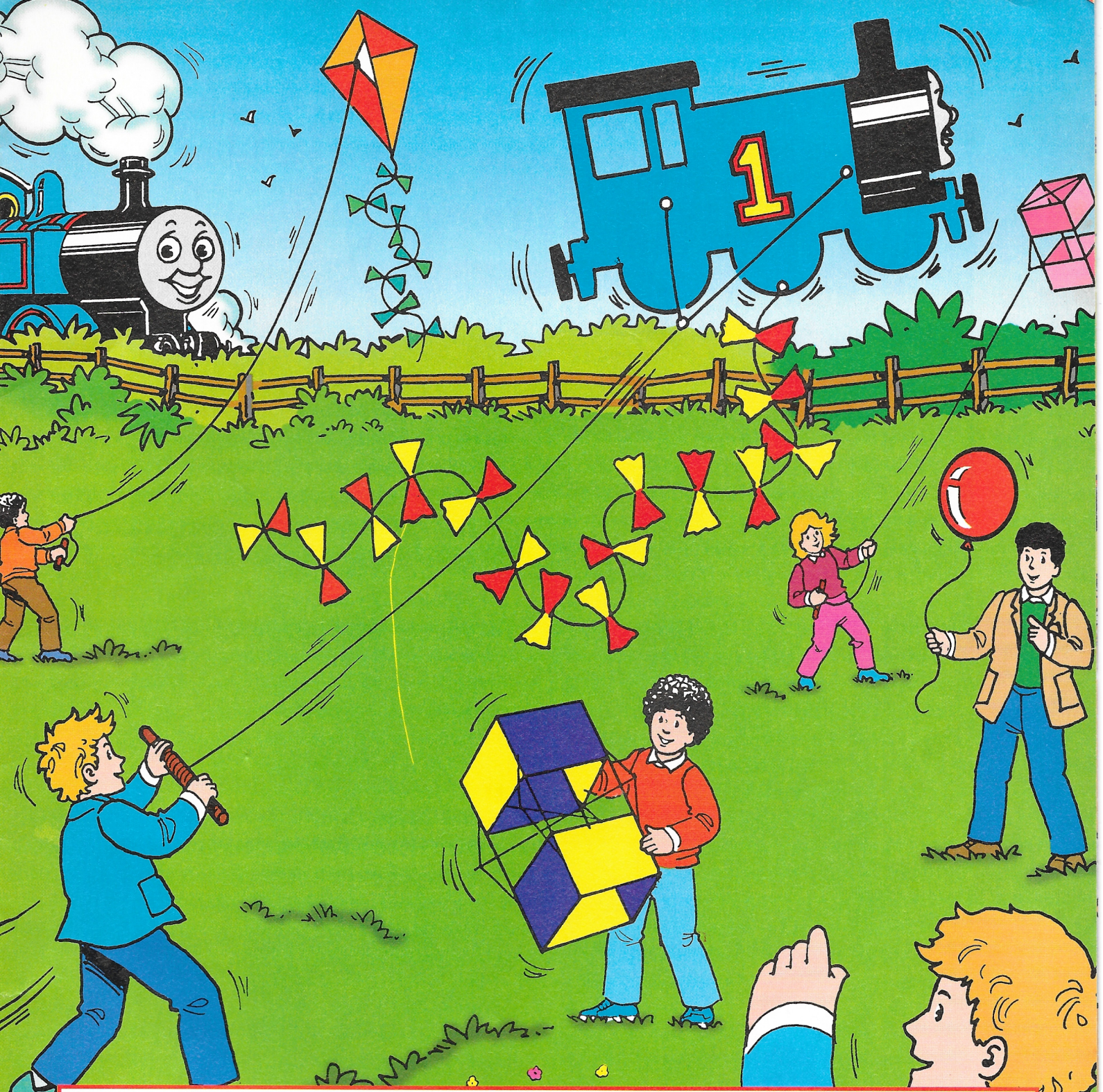
8. "It's being held tomorrow, at the village green by the next station," the man told Thomas's driver. "Make sure you're there early!" said the driver. "I've an idea!"



9. Back at the Main Station yard, Thomas's driver spoke to the Fat Controller who arranged for a new kite to be made. "I have an idea what it can look like!" said Thomas.

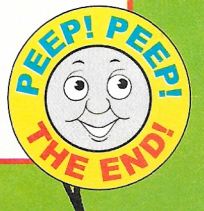


10. Next morning, Thomas set off on his branch line. He took the kite with him. The little boy and his father were waiting on the station platform by the village green.



11. Nearby, Thomas could see that some children were already flying kites of all shapes and sizes. Imagine how pleased the little boy was when Thomas's driver gave him the new kite. "It looks just like Thomas!" cried the boy, excitedly. While Thomas went to shunt trucks in the station yard, the boy entered his new kite in the competition.

12. Thomas watched the engine kite soar into the sky. People pointed and stared in surprise. The engine kite flew very well. The boy won a special prize for such an unusual kite. "Thomas should have it!" he said. The prize was a big, red balloon which was soon tied to Thomas's buffers. "Engines can fly, after all!" puffed Thomas proudly.



Look at the sky what can you see?
Colourful kites flying
high above me!

In this activity, can you match up the kites to the string that Stephen and Bridget are holding?

Back to School with Thomas

It's almost time to return to school, and if you enter our great competition, you could win yourself a fantastic set of Thomas goodies! Each set includes a shoulder bag, swim bag and shoe bag so you can carry all of your school items in style! Then, why not put your lunch into a great Thomas lunch box and flask? It's a sure way to impress all of your friends when you return to the classroom! If this isn't enough for you, then there is also a great Thomas stationery set, which includes a pencil case along with lots of pens and pencils to fill it!

We have 10 sets to give away and if you would like the chance to win one, just answer the following question:

How many school bags can you see in this picture?

Send your answers on a postcard with your name, address and age to:
***Back to school competition,* Heart Fashions and Designs, 37a High Street, Walsall Wood, West Midlands, WS9 9LR.**

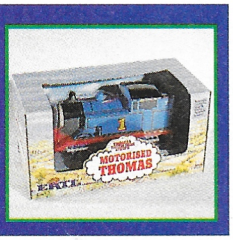
All entries to be received by 30th August, 1995

This competition is open to all readers other than employees of Marvel Comics Ltd. and Heart Fashion and Designs. All prizes will be distributed via the manufacturer. We cannot accept any responsibility for prizes lost or damaged in the post. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence shall be entered into.

YOUR LETTERS

STAR LETTER!

The sender of any letter that is printed as our STAR LETTER will win one of these Thomas push and pull motorised engines!



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Dear Fat Controller,
Do Thomas and his friends ever have holidays? All of them seem to work very hard!
Love from Jack Jarvis, aged 2.
All my engines need to be in service almost all year to make the Island of Sodor railway run efficiently. The passengers depend on my engines and it would cause a lot of inconvenience if they had lots of holidays! But I do send them to be cleaned regularly, which they really enjoy!

ENGINE PARTS!

Dear Fat Controller,
Please can you tell me why engines have domes?
Love from Callum Cook, aged 3.
The domes on the engines are very important because they help in the process of creating steam. It is the steam that moves the pistons, which in turn help turn the wheels!

FUEL UP!

Dear Fat Controller,
Please can you tell me what kind of coal James uses?
Love from Graeme Hird, aged 6.
Only the finest quality coal is shipped in from the mainland and I always make sure that all of my engines receive their full share!

Picture of the fortnight!

Dear Fat Controller,
This is a picture of me and my brother, Alex, when we went to visit Thomas at Pickering Station in North Yorkshire!

Love from David Bean, aged 5.

BIRTHDAYS

Special wishes go to....

Martin & Matthew Ralph, Adam Probert, Michael Kay, Alexander Cartwright, Richard Mead, Richard Jones, Willard Masters and belated wishes to James Phillips.

Drawing Board!

Thank you for sending your smashing drawings and pictures to the Fat Controller's Drawing Board

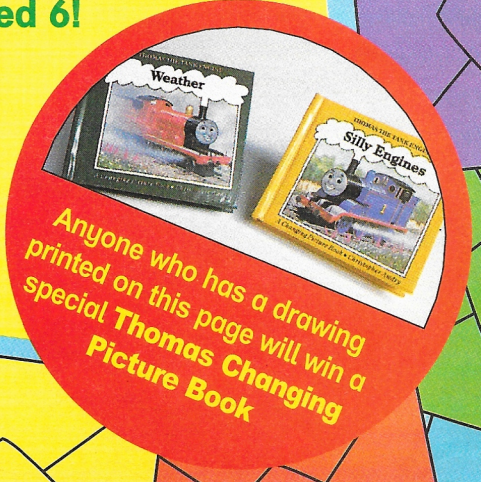
Thomas and his driver are busy with their work in this picture, as drawn by Adam Bevan, who's aged 4!

Anders Wyatt, aged 3, has drawn a great picture of his favourite engine, Gordon, on a bright sunny day!

Andrew Heath, aged 6, has drawn a happy picture of James the red engine! Well done!

What a lovely picture of Oliver and a colourful rainbow! Thank you to Sam Manning, aged 6!

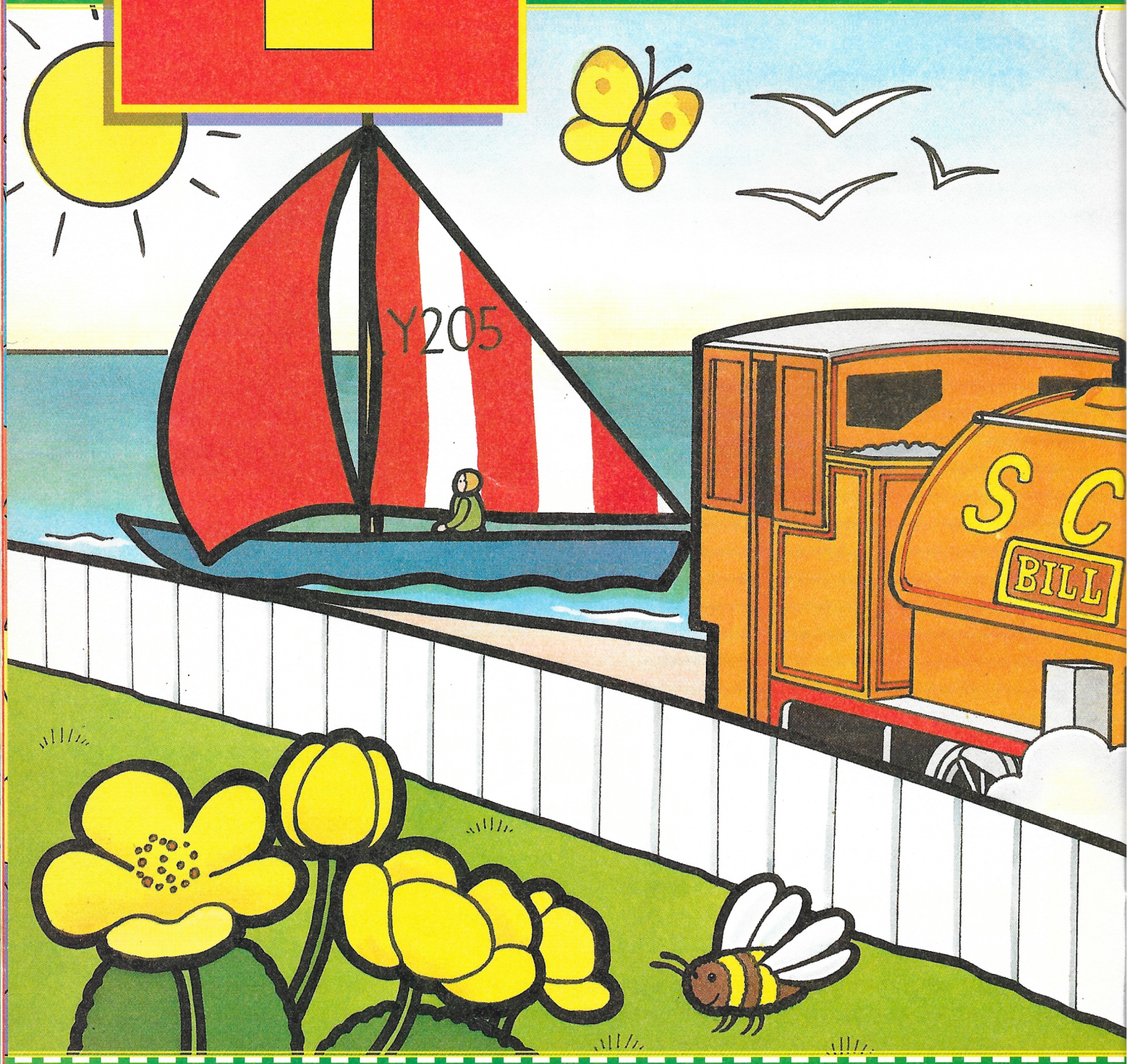
If you would like to have your drawing or painting displayed on the page, then please send your entries to: The Fat Controller's Drawing Board, Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends, Marvel Comics Ltd., 13-15 Arundel Street, London, WC2R 3DX.



Anyone who has a drawing printed on this page will win a special Thomas Changing Picture Book

CUT OUT AND KEEP

Y is for



- Which engines can you see in this picture?
- What colour are the yacht's sails?
- What numbers can you see on the sails?
- Point to
- Can yo
- How m

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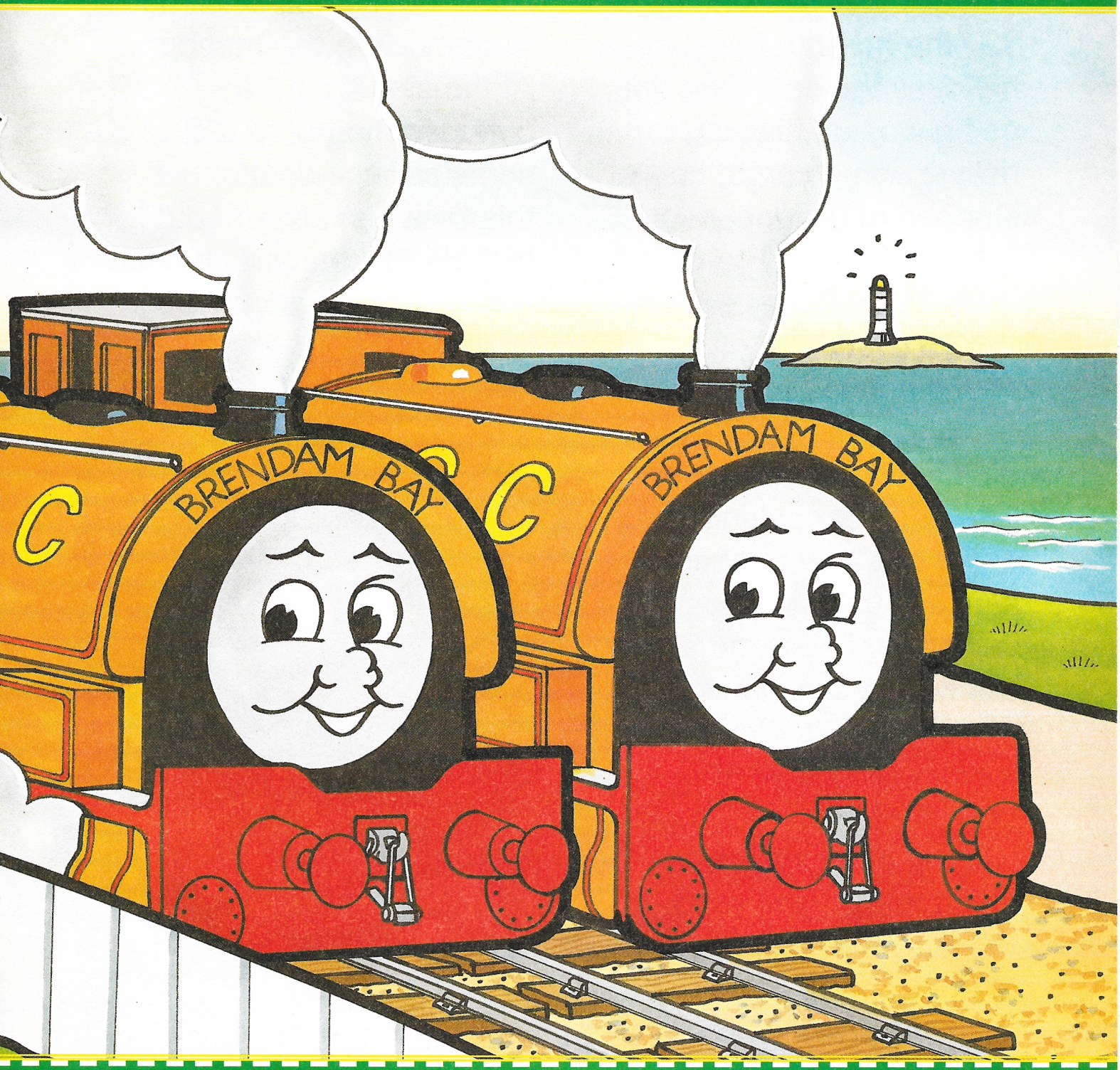


the bee!

see the lighthouse?

ny birds are flying in the sky?

This centre spread should be cut out as it forms part of a continuous scene for your child's bedroom, play group or classroom.

Music in the air!

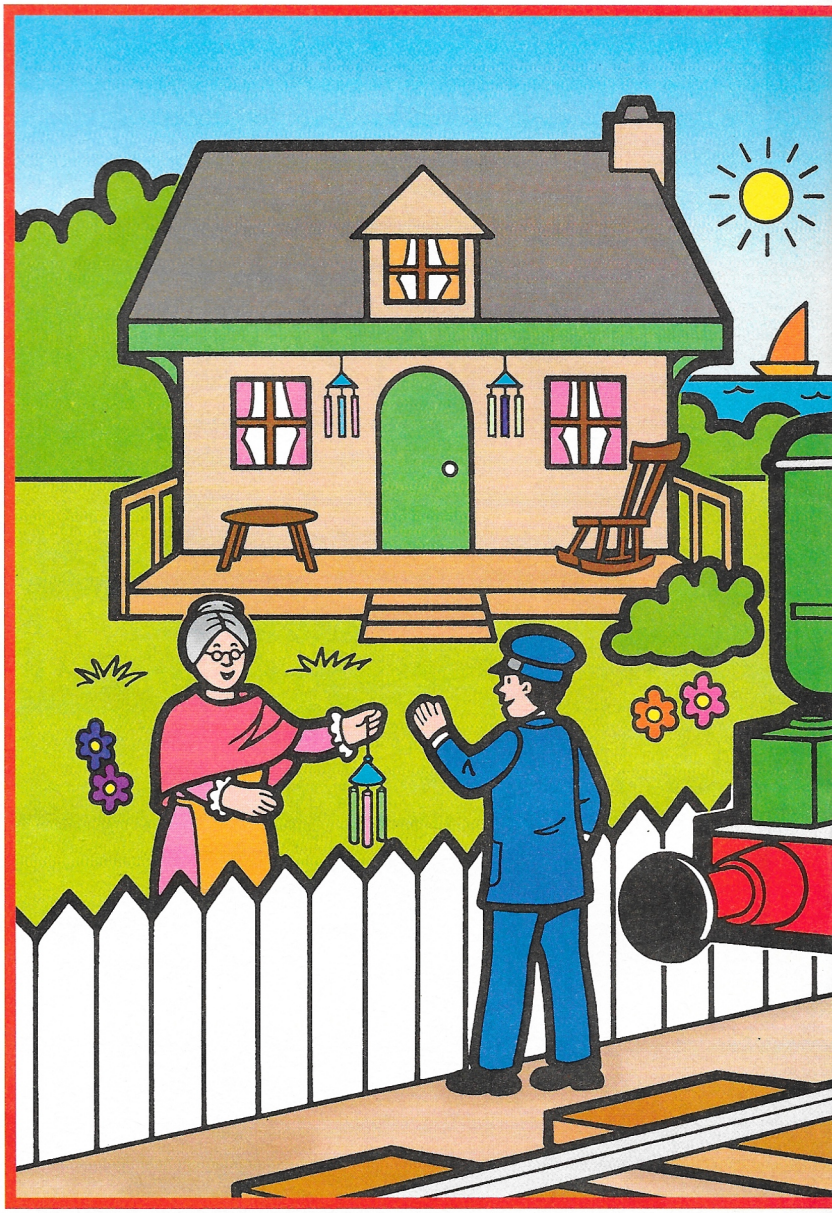
Duck enjoys working at the harbour because he loves the sea! One day as he was on his way to deliver some cargo, he stopped at a signal near some cottages. There was a lovely sea breeze and as it blew, a strange musical sound echoed in the air.

"What was that?" gasped Duck. His driver listened, but couldn't hear anything. "You're hearing things, Duck!" he laughed. Duck only heard the sound when the wind blew and he decided that it was the wind singing to him! Later that evening, Duck told the other engines about the singing wind.

"You've been in the sun too long!" giggled Oliver.

"You should stop dreaming and concentrate on your job!" snorted Gordon.

A few days later, Duck had to go back to the harbour. At the signal by the cottages, he heard the same strange sound, but this time his driver heard it, too! He looked around and he noticed an elderly lady

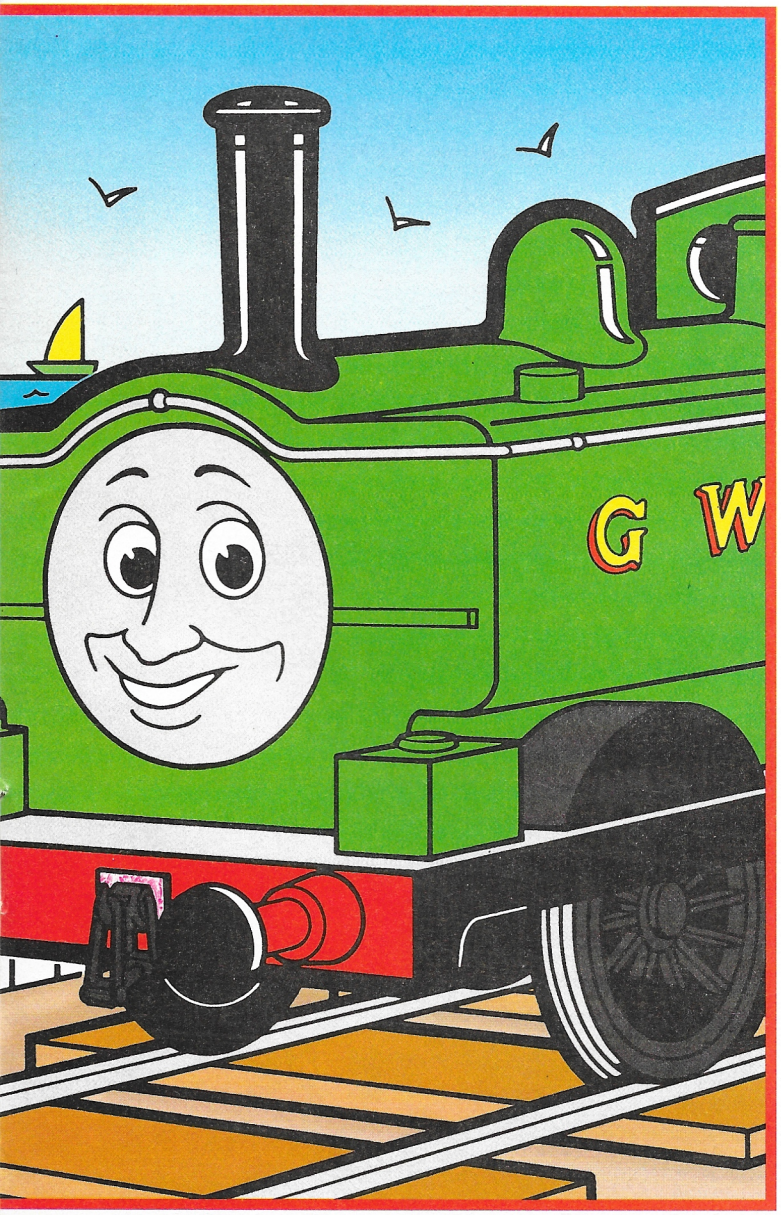


making something in her garden.

"Look!" cried Duck's driver, "there are some wind chimes hanging by the windows!"

"Hello!" called the lady. The driver waved from Duck's cab and told her how they enjoyed listening to her whistling chimes.

"Making chimes is my hobby!" she said. "Here, you can have this one!"



She reached across her fence and handed a wind chime to Duck's driver. At the end of the day, Duck's driver hung the chime in the shed. Now Duck could be reminded of the sea all of the time! Just then, a summer breeze blew gently and the wind chime began to sing. The other engines were amazed!

"The wind really does sing!" exclaimed Gordon.

"Maybe you should stop dreaming and concentrate on your work!" chuckled Duck.

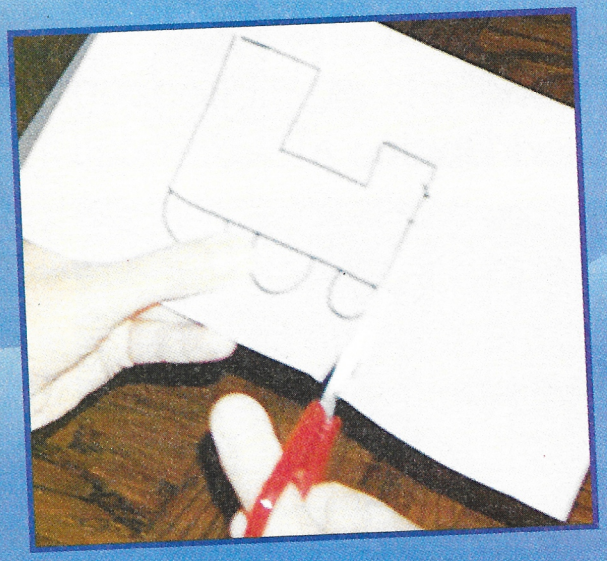
Turn the page there's more to do, There's something musical just for you!

Make a wi

You will need:
A sheet of strong card
Some string, wool or cotton
Pasta tubes
Paints and coloured pens
Round ended scissors

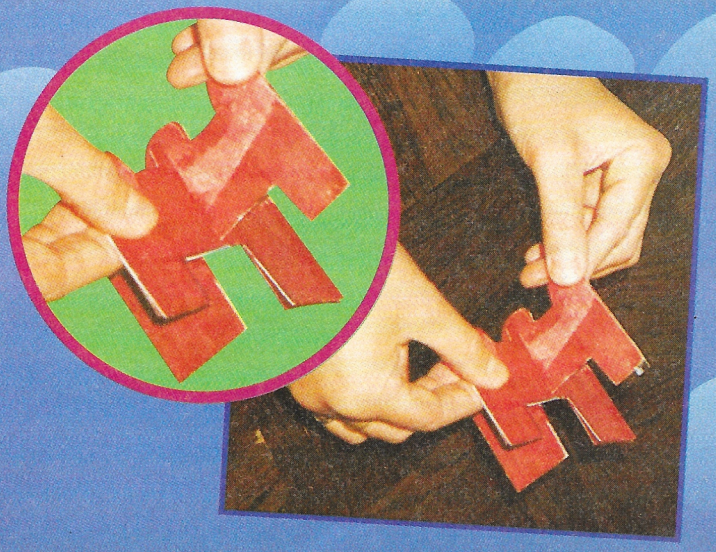
In this activity, we are going to show you how to make your very own wind chime, just like the one in the story, 'Music in the air!' Look at the pictures and follow the instructions carefully! You might need the help of a grown-up!

1. Fold your sheet of card in half and draw an outline of an engine like we have done!



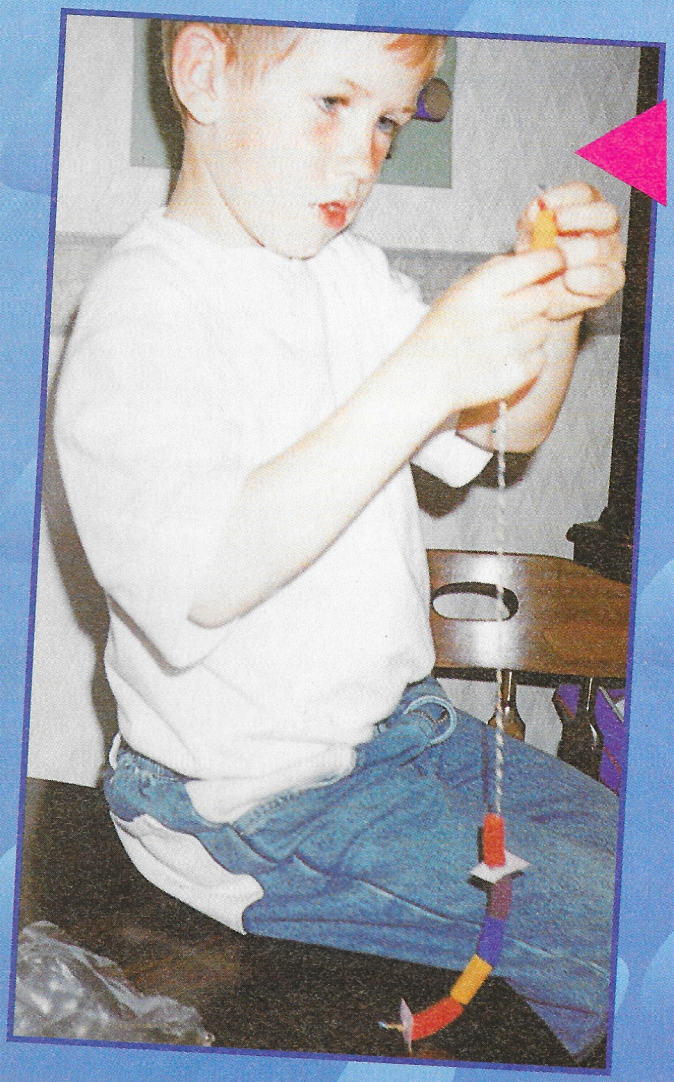
2. Now, ask a grown-up to cut out the shape for you! This is a clever way of making 2 engines out of one drawing! Then add your engine's details using your coloured pens or pencils!

3. Now make a slit in each of the engines. One slit must go at the top of one engine and another slit at the bottom of the other one. Now ask the grown-up to slide the 2 engines together!

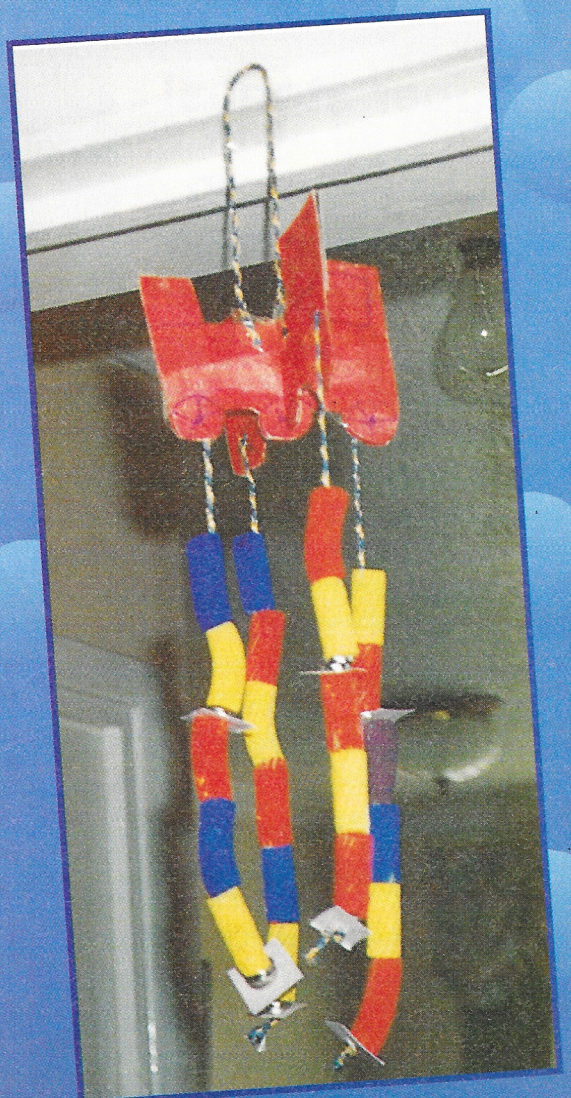


ind chime!

4. Paint your pasta tubes with some colourful paint! But make sure you are wearing old clothes, it can get very messy!



5. Cut four lengths of string and thread on your pasta tubes and anything else you wish, that will make a noise when the wind blows!



6. Finally, fasten your pieces of string to your engine shapes and hang your engine wind chime by a window!

Peep! Peep!

Time for a sunny day trip!

Get your copy today!

Packed with:

Exciting adventures!

Amazing activities!

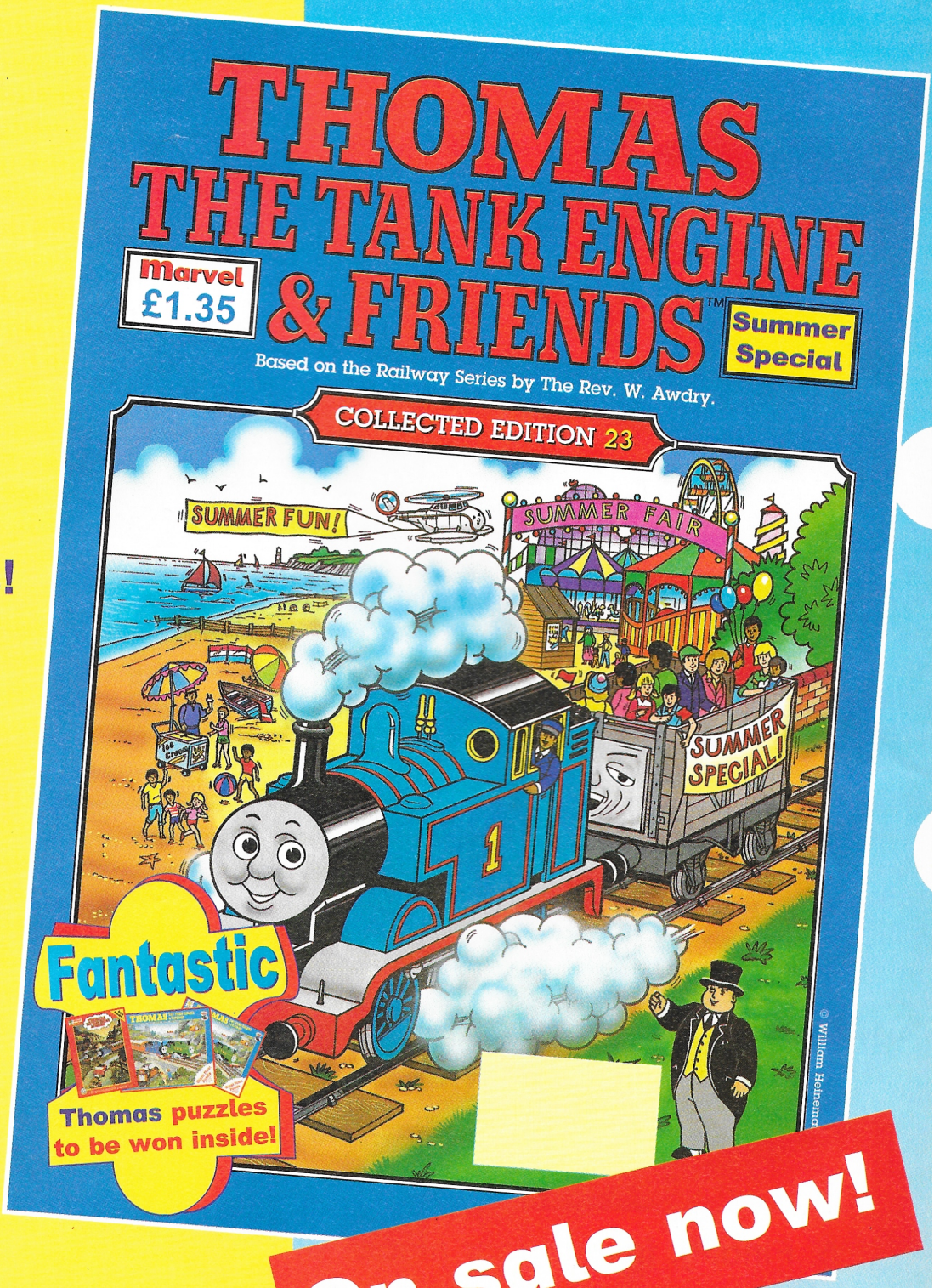
Super stories!

Enter our brilliant competition!

Great poster to hang on your wall!

Thrilling scenes to colour!

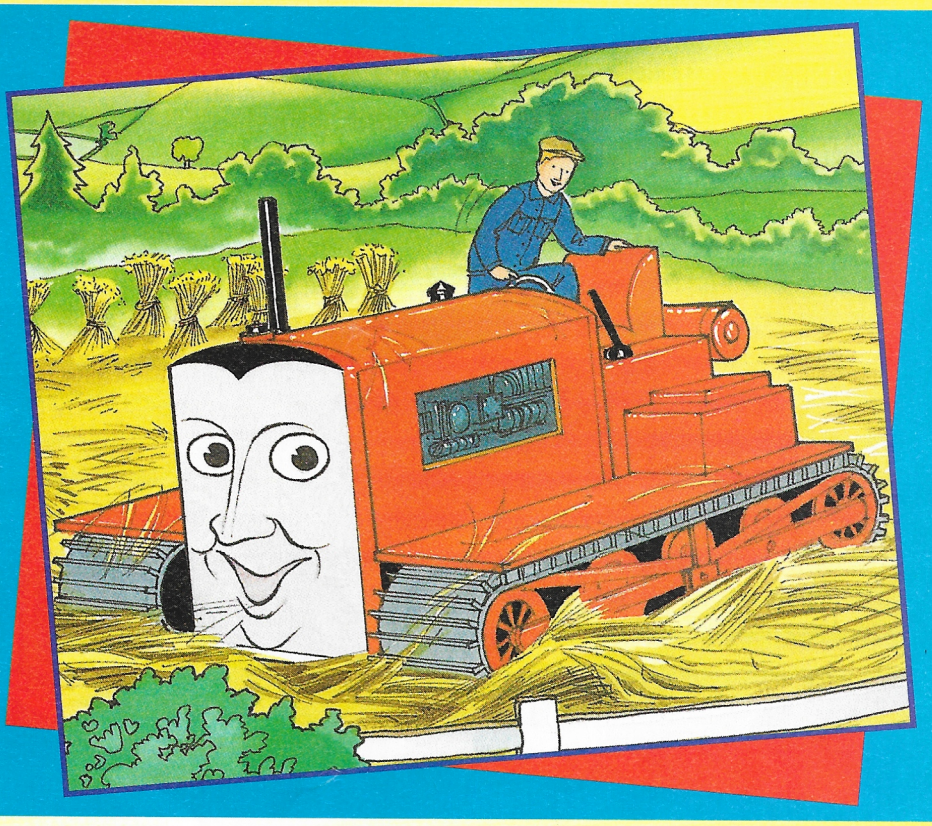
Make this summer special!

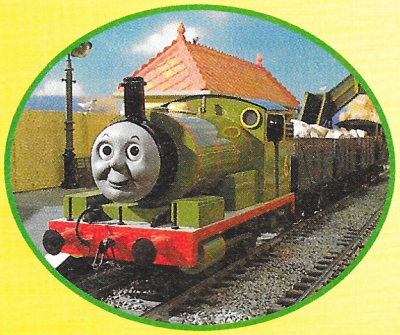


On sale now!

Friends of Thomas: Terence the Tractor!

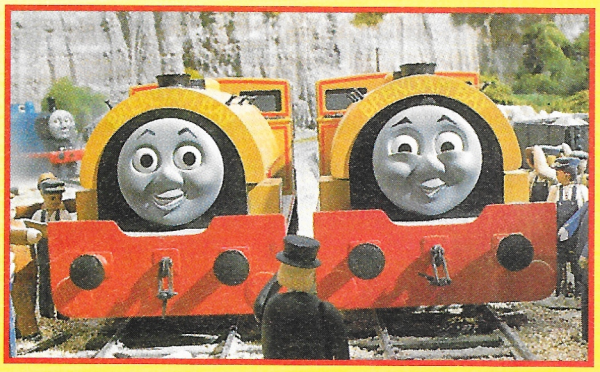
Terence has always worked on the Island of Sodor, and he has become Jem Cole's most trusty engine! Even though he is smaller and slower than the other engines on the railway, he is just as important!





Percy remembers the time when he teased Terence about not being as strong as the other engines. Percy soon found out just how strong Terence was, when he needed his help to be pulled free from a landslide!

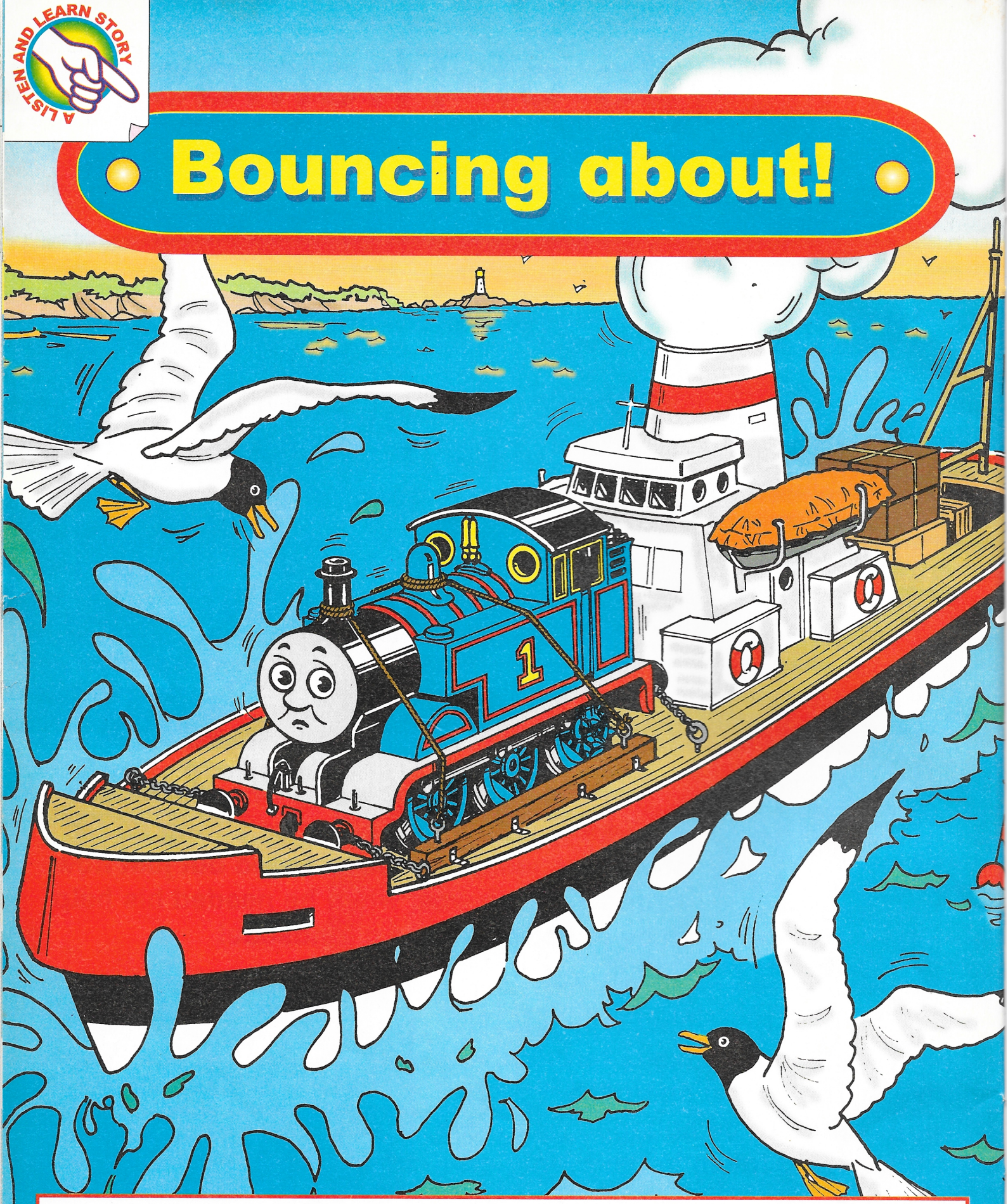
Bill & Ben remember teasing Terence about his caterpillar treads. They soon apologised when Terence had to be called to remove a tree that had fallen in their path, on the track.



On many occasions, the engines have teased Terence about his caterpillar treads, or about his speed. However, they soon realise how efficient, useful and kind he is when he has to help them. Like Terence says; "You don't have to be big to be useful."

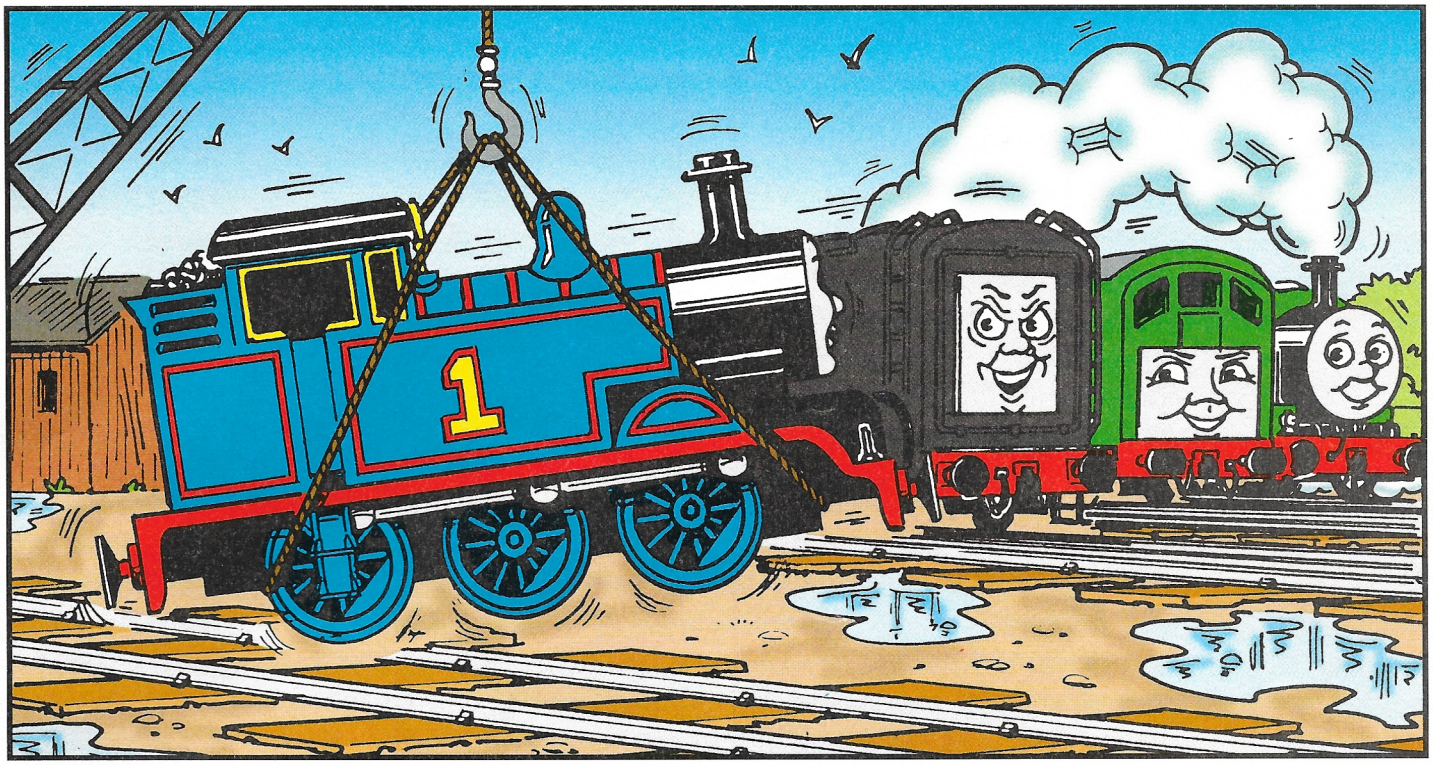
A LISTEN AND LEARN STORY

Bouncing about!



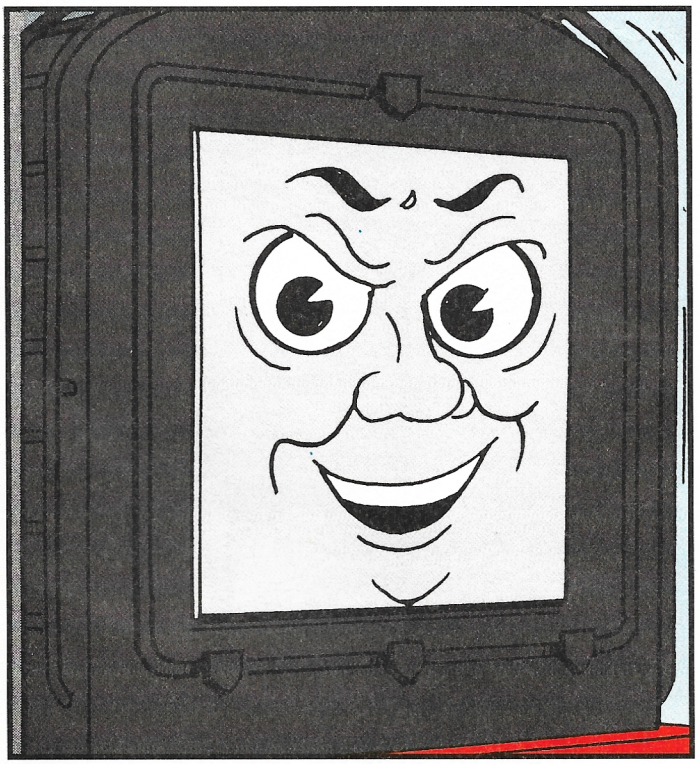
1. It was a windy morning. A ship was bringing Thomas back to the Island of Sodor. He had been sent to the mainland railway to take part in a steam engine exhibition.

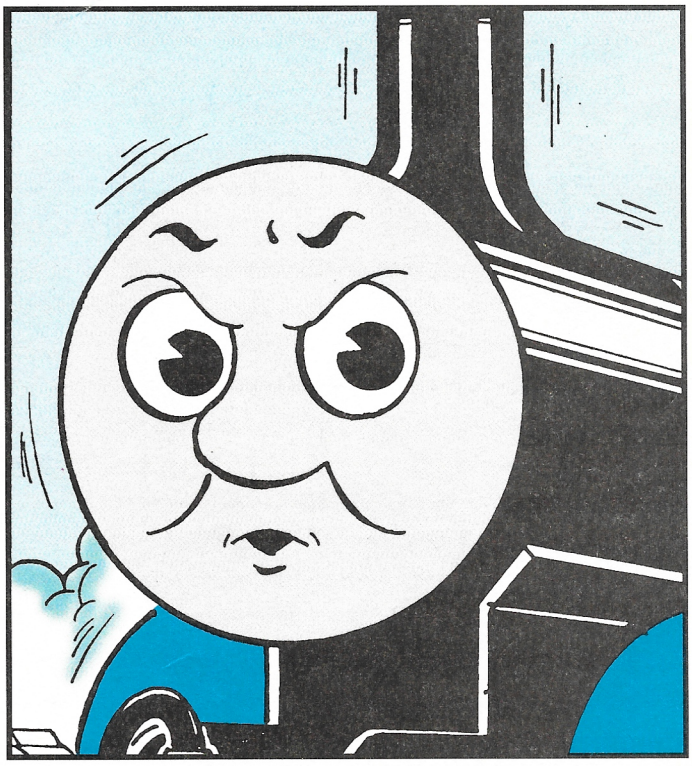
2. Thomas was chained to the deck of the ship. It dipped up and down as it steamed towards the big harbour. The sea was very rough. "Smoke and fire!" gasped Thomas.



3. BoCo, Diesel and Percy were all working in the harbour yard. They watched the ship finally tie up. A huge crane lifted Thomas off the deck. "Thank goodness!" he said.

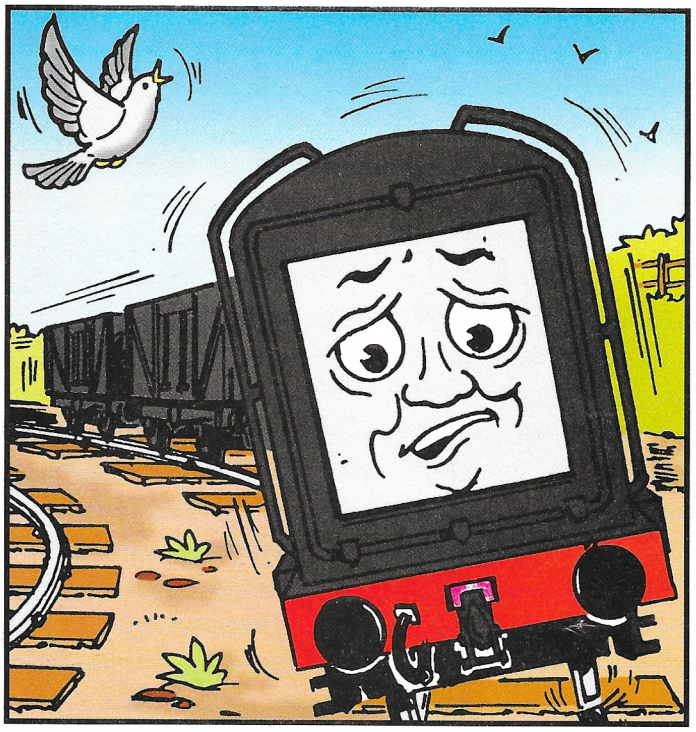
4. "It's grand to be back on dry land," Thomas told the other engines as the crane put him down. "You look a bit green about your buffers!" laughed Diesel, nastily.



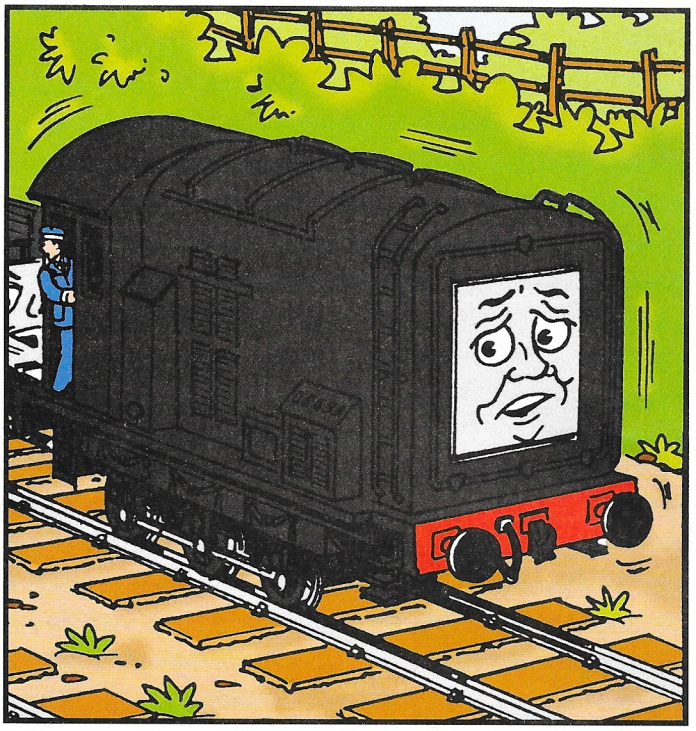


5. "Thomas is a blue engine not a green one!" smiled BoCo. "I meant he looks seasick!" snorted Diesel unkindly. "I'm fine," said Thomas. "But it was bumpy on those waves!"

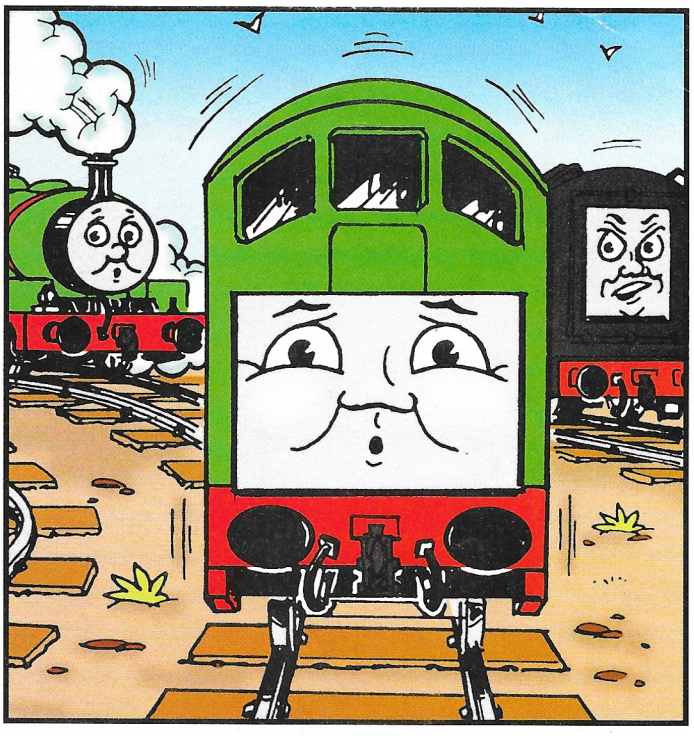
6. "Pah! It wouldn't bother me," Percy teased him. "I think a bumpy ride sounds like really good fun!" Thomas was cross. "That's because you've never had one," he replied.



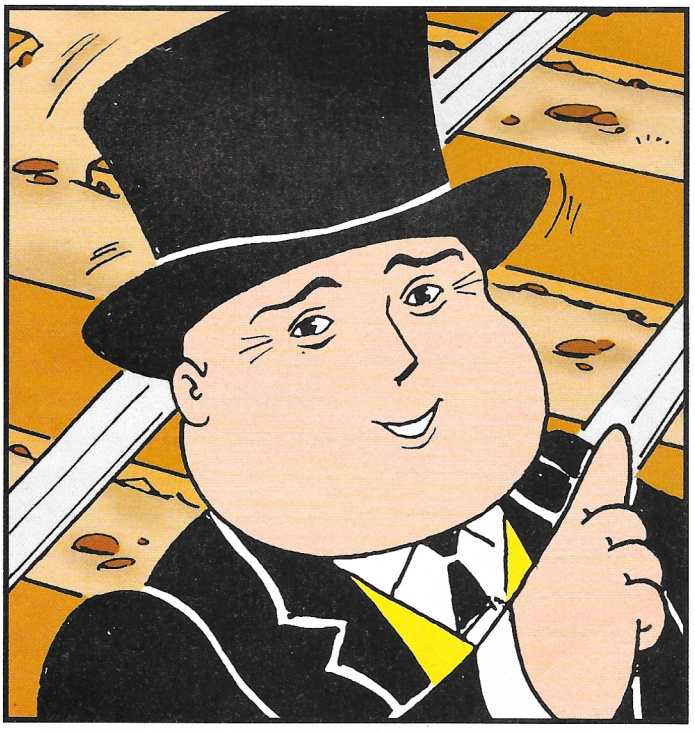
7. Later, all four engines had to return to the Main Station. Diesel set off first. But, on the way, he raced over some loose and wobbly track on the main line.



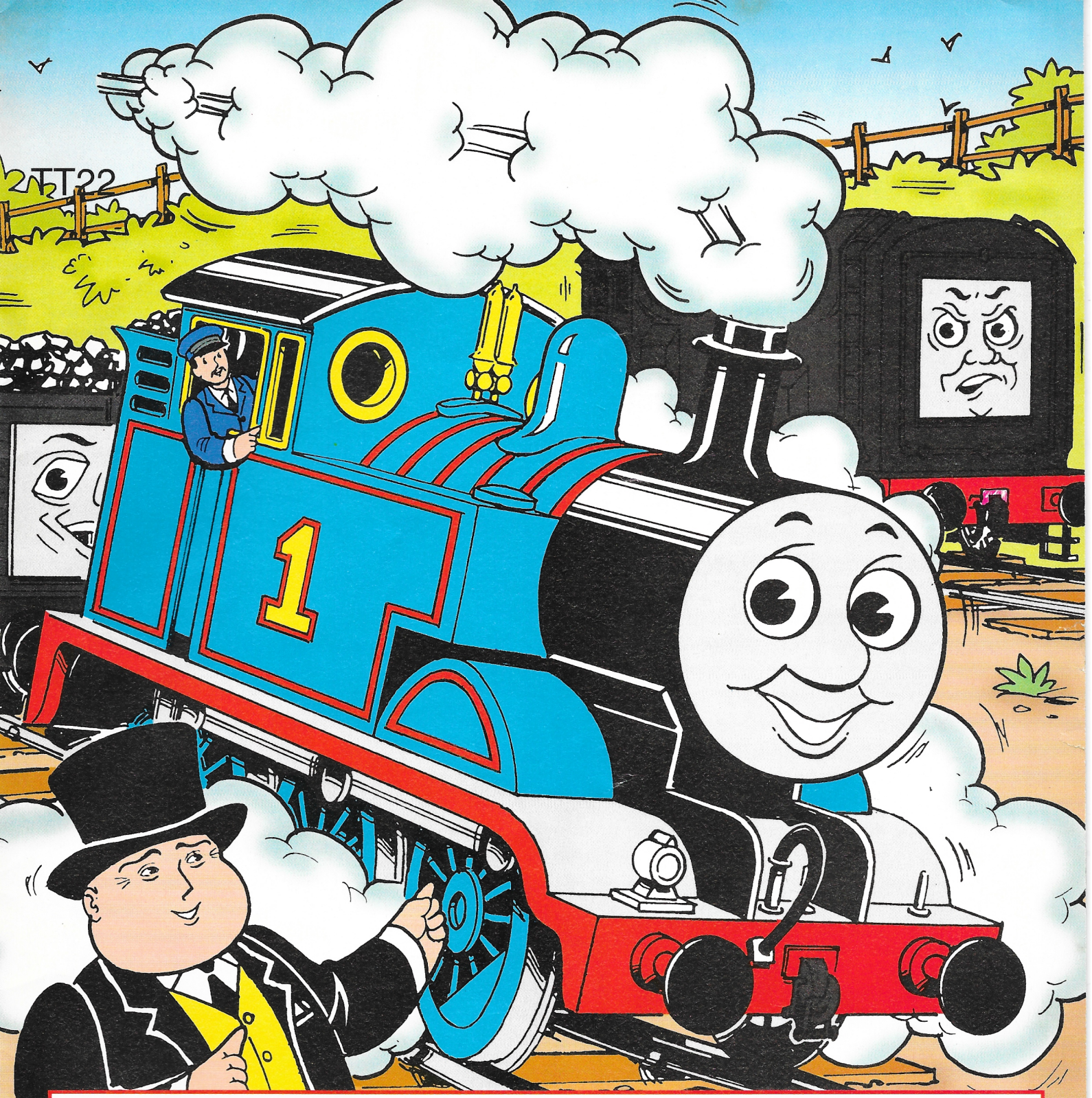
8. Diesel rocked about so much he thought he would crash. His wheels almost bounced off of the rails. The driver braked hard and Diesel reversed, looking shaken.



9. Next came BoCo and Percy. But they refused to cross the loose rails. So Thomas had to wait behind them. Soon Duck arrived with some workmen.

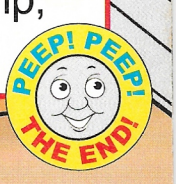


10. The workmen checked the track. "It's safe to use if the engines go very slowly," they explained. "Good! Then we'll repair the track tonight," said the Fat Controller.



11. "You engines are too busy to stop working now," he continued. "Please, Sir, we don't want to bump about," said Percy nervously. BoCo and Diesel agreed. "I'll show them it's safe," said Thomas. The other engines backed into sidings. Thomas puffed past onto the loose rails. He felt them move up and down underneath his wheels.

12. Thomas went very carefully. He rolled from side to side. But he did not mind. "It's easy!" he called. "Now follow me!" BoCo and Percy did. Diesel felt silly for making a fuss. "Thomas is a Really Useful Engine!" said the Fat Controller. "Loose rails don't bother me!" smiled Thomas. "After my sea trip, I'm used to bouncing about!"



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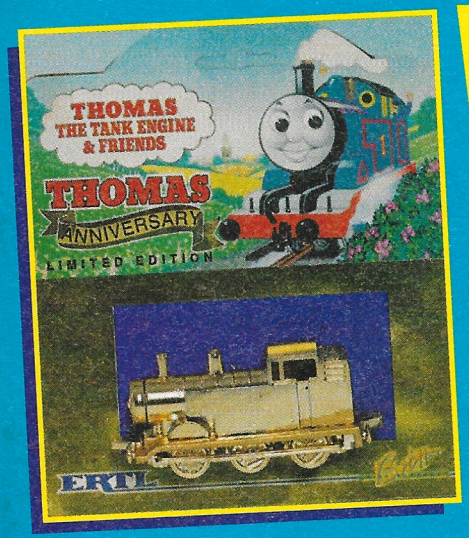

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